

South Carolina
**AFRICAN
AMERICAN**
HISTORY CALENDAR



Dear Students, Educators and Friends:

For sixteen years, BellSouth has produced the South Carolina African American History Calendar to assist the South Carolina Department of Education in meeting the Educational Improvement Act mandate, which calls for the inclusion of African American history in the state's social studies curriculum.

During those years, BellSouth has seen tremendous changes in the telecommunications industry including the emergence of competition, changes in regulations and new technologies such as the Internet and wireless telephony. Even though BellSouth is now facing tough competition and regulations that give competitors an unfair advantage, BellSouth has remained committed to serving our communities through projects like this calendar. At the same time, BellSouth has evolved from a company that only offered local service to a company that can today provide local, long distance, Internet, wireless, and DirecTV service.

Even though the marketplace and BellSouth have changed, the individuals that are featured on the African American History Calendar continue to be shining role models for all of our children. The individuals featured on this year's calendar have excelled in the areas of religion, business, publishing, medicine, military service, sports, music, journalism, law enforcement, and community service.

In addition to these outstanding individuals, BellSouth is dedicating this year's calendar to the memory of Dr. Grace Jordan McFadden, in honor of the Tuskegee Airmen, and in recognition of the Brown vs. Board of Education's 50th anniversary.

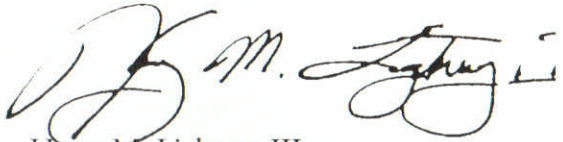
Since 1994, Dr. McFadden researched and wrote the biographies on each individual featured in the calendars. Her commitment and dedication to this project will be greatly missed.

Dedication is a word that is often used to describe the Tuskegee heroes. BellSouth is proud to sponsor their 60th anniversary during the Celebrate Freedom Air show in Camden, South Carolina on November 5-8, 2004.

Another dedicated group of individuals are the South Carolinians who played essential roles 50 years ago in the U.S. Supreme Court's Brown v. Board of Education school desegregation decision. This year descendants received the Congressional Gold Medals, the highest honor the President of the United States and the United States Congress can bestow upon civilians.

The 2005 African American History Calendar is a tribute to the superb strength, hard work and dedication of the people featured. We hope that their stories will inspire you and the children of South Carolina.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. M. Lightsey, III". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Harry" being particularly prominent.

Harry M. Lightsey, III
President
BellSouth in South Carolina

D E D I C A T I O N



Grace
Jordan
McFadden,
Ph.D.

*Amazing
Grace*

Dr. Grace Jordan McFadden, daughter of Whitney Jay Jordan, Sr. and Essie Mae Allen Jordan of Sacramento, arrived at the University of South Carolina (USC) in 1971. Over the next two decades, she became an inimitable presence in the life of that institution and the Columbia community.

A graduate of California State University at Sacramento, she received her Master's degree in education at Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. and earned a Ph.D. in Philosophy in African American History from Antioch-Union Graduate School.

She began her teaching career as instructor of Urban Education and African American Studies at the University of Toledo. In 1971, as a historical and curriculum consultant, McFadden joined the South Carolina Desegregation Consulting Center. She rose through the ranks at USC, serving as an instructor, an assistant professor and an associate professor in the Department of History.

She was the first African American woman hired as a professor in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences at USC and the first to receive tenure. In 1986, she became founder and director of USC's Oral History and Cultural Project. Her 25-part videotape series, "The Quest for Human Rights: Oral History of Black South Carolinians" later aired statewide on South Carolina ETV and is considered the model for oral history presentations. In 1988, she was named director and founder of USC's African American Studies Program.

McFadden inspired and challenged thousands of students as an advisor and teacher—serving as both role model and advocate. She brought African American history to the forefront of contemporary education. Under her direct leadership, major symposia were presented at USC. Foremost among these were the 1988 "Conference on the Contemporary Desegregation of the University of South Carolina" and "Their Stories: Voices of the Civil Rights Movement," featuring James Farmer of CORE (Congress of Racial Equality), Juanita Abernathy of SCLC (Southern Christian Leadership Conference), Charles McDew and Cleveland L. Sellers, Jr., of SNCC (Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee).

A nationally recognized scholar, she was widely published and often sought as lecturer, panelist, and presenter.

Grace Jordan McFadden excelled as a teacher. When illness prevented her from teaching in the classroom, she welcomed students into her home and continued to share her love of history and wealth of knowledge. In 1994, she was named Professor Emerita in USC's Department of History and African American Studies.

From 1994 through 2004, she researched and authored more than 120 essays and biographies for BellSouth's *South Carolina African American History Calendar*. The company honored her with an original portrait for her service and commitment.

She was a dedicated member of First Calvary Baptist Church and the Columbia Chapter of The Links, Inc. A founding board member of the Eau Claire Cooperative, McFadden also served on the Criteria and Selection Committee for the United Black Fund of the Midlands Black Hall of Fame honorees.

In 1995, she was inducted into the South Carolina Black Hall of Fame, received the African American Women Achievement Award presented by the South Carolina Council of Black Newspapers, and was presented the Key to the City of Columbia.

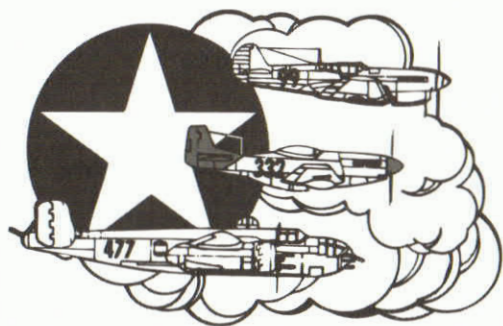
Among her most treasured awards was the Benjamin Elijah Mays Academy for Leadership Development John McFadden Award for Outstanding Service to Youth presented by her husband, Dr. Johnnie McFadden, founder and director of the Academy.

Her memory is cherished by her devoted husband, her beloved daughter, Rashida Hannah, and a host of relatives, friends, colleagues and admirers.

Our Grace

Your mind, your body, your spirit
Transcend mankind
And reach for the stars.

*Johnnie McFadden and
Rashida Hannah*



60th Anniversary Reunion of the Tuskegee Airmen

In 1940, an experimental, segregated Army Air Corps unit for African Americans was established in Tuskegee, Alabama. The aim of the Tuskegee Experiment, as it came to be known, was to answer the question of whether African Americans had the courage and ability to fly in combat.

In July 1941, the pilot training program became a reality. Primary flight training was conducted by the Division of Aeronautics of Tuskegee Institute, the famed school founded by Booker T. Washington in 1881. After a cadet completed primary training at Moton Field, he was sent to nearby Tuskegee Army Air Field for completion of flight training and transition to combat-type aircraft.

In March 1942, the silver wings of Army Air Forces pilots were awarded to five men—George S. Roberts, Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., Charles H. BeBow, Jr., Mac Ross and Lemuel R. Custis—the first African Americans to qualify as military pilots. They were assigned to the 99th Fighter Squadron and scattered to Walterboro, SC in addition to locations in Texas and New Mexico for additional training.

Necessary support personnel outnumbered pilots ten to one. Aircrew and ground crew training for flight engineers, gunners, mechanics, armorers, etc., also took place in Tuskegee. Maintenance personnel were trained at Chanute Field in Illinois. In 1943, a twin-engine training program was instituted to provide bomber pilots. Over 500 pilots and crews were trained, but WWII ended before they were deployed overseas.

By the end of WWII, 992 African American pilots had earned their wings. Of those, 445 pilots and their crews experienced combat in Europe, the Mediterranean, and North Africa.

The Tuskegee Airmen's primary aircraft was the

P51C Mustang. In order to identify themselves, the tails of their aircraft were painted red. Thus, the Tuskegee Airmen became known as the "Red Tails." Each squadron added distinguishing markings to their planes. The letter "A" designated the 99th Squadron. Yellow bands at the end of the wings were associated with the 101st Fighter Squadron. The number 42 denoted the 301st Fighter Squadron. Yellow trim tabs and red and yellow nose strips were paint schemes indicative of the 302nd Fighter Squadron.

The reputation of superior performance by the Tuskegee Airmen, aka "Red Tails," spread quickly. Soon, they were being requested by bomber pilots as fighter escorts. They flew over 15,000 sorties in 1,578 missions, and never lost a bomber to enemy fighters—a *record no other fighter group achieved*. Sixty-six men lost their lives in combat, and thirty-two were captured as prisoners of war.

They received over 850 medals, including Distinguished Flying Crosses, Legions of Merit, Silver Stars, Bronze Stars, Purple Hearts, the Croix de Guerre and the Red Star of Yugoslavia. They were also recognized with the Presidential Unit Citation, the highest award that can be given a military unit.

The Tuskegee Airmen challenged oppression and racism with the willingness to give their lives in the name of freedom. They carried with them into battle the hopes and dreams of equality for their 13 million African American countrymen. What had begun as an experiment ended in success that was instrumental in forging a path of opportunity for all.

BellSouth is privileged to be the host sponsor of the 60th Anniversary Reunion of the Tuskegee Airmen in November 2004. The Airmen will be honored by the Celebrate Freedom Foundation for their achievements and their historical significance.

On September 8, 2004, the United States Congress awarded the Congressional Gold Medal to four Clarendon County, South Carolina civil rights pioneers who were instrumental in the first desegregation lawsuit, *Briggs v. Elliott*, that later became *Brown v. the Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas*.

Congressman James E. Clyburn and Senator Fritz Hollings introduced the legislation to award the Congressional Gold Medal of Honor posthumously to Reverend Joseph DeLaine, Levi Pearson and Harry and Eliza Briggs as part of the nation's recognition of the 50th anniversary of the landmark desegregation case.

These previously unsung heroes were ordinary citizens who finally received recognition for their extraordinary deeds.

Reverend Joseph Armstrong DeLaine organized the original 106 petitioners. Eighteen of those petitioners and two others made up the original plaintiffs in *Briggs v. Elliott*, the first of the five cases that were merged and became *Brown v. the Board of Education of Topeka Kansas*. At the time of their petition, Black children in Clarendon County were walking nine miles each way to school. Their petition was for a school bus.

When their request for a bus was denied, they sought relief in the courts. Reverend DeLaine was harassed by the Ku Klux Klan and several attempts were made on his life. His church was burned, and when he responded in kind to gunshots that were fired into his home in 1955, law enforcement officials issued a warrant for Reverend DeLaine's arrest. Fearing the consequences, he and his family fled the state.

Levi Pearson was a small Clarendon County farmer. He responded to Reverend DeLaine's request and sued the School District on behalf of his three children who were walking nine miles to school each day. His decision was met with dire consequences. The local bank refused to provide him



Ferdinand Pearson, son of Levi Pearson, U.S. Education Secretary Rod Paige, Viola Pearson, widow of Levi Pearson, House Speaker Dennis Hastert, Nathaniel Briggs, son of Harry and Eliza Briggs, Congressman James E. Clyburn, J.A. DeLaine, Jr., son of Reverend Joseph A. DeLaine, Sr.

The Heroes of Briggs v. Elliott

credit to purchase farming equipment and supplies, and other farmers refused to lend him equipment.

Shots were fired into his home and he was ostracized by his neighbors. Despite these actions, Pearson continued with his suit. But in 1948, the United States District Court dismissed Pearson's suit finding that although his farm was partially in Clarendon School District One, his house was situated in School District 2 and therefore he did not have standing.

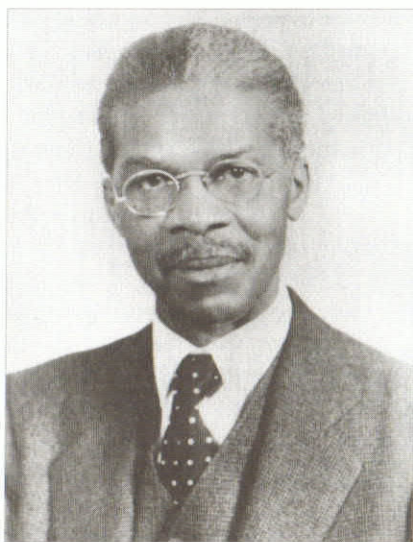
Although his legal case was dismissed, Pearson continued to fight against segregation and later became president of the local NAACP chapter. In spite of extreme hardships, he never left his land.

Harry Briggs, a service station attendant, and his wife **Eliza**, a maid at a local motel, took up the

cause. As did Levi Pearson and Reverend DeLaine, they suffered inhumane consequences for their actions. They were fired from their jobs, but persevered. Because he was "blackballed" in South Carolina and could not find employment, Briggs moved to Florida where he lived out his productive life.

The Congressional Gold Medal is the most distinguished award bestowed by the United States Congress. It is the nation's top civilian award presented to those individuals that embody the best quality in America's heritage. Before it can be awarded, legislation must be approved by Congress and signed into law by the President. Congress first awarded the Congressional Gold Medal to George Washington in 1776.

Louis George Gregory



Baha'i Faith Leader

Photo courtesy of National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of the United States.

Louis George Gregory (1874-1951), a descendant of black slaves and white slave owners, devoted his life to championing unity among the races in the United States of America during the early 1900s.

Gregory's maternal grandmother was "wholly of African blood" and his maternal grandfather was the white owner of the Darlington County plantation where she labored. Gregory was influenced during his entire life by this grandmother who drew on her profound spiritual beliefs and chose not to hate, even after the lynching of her blacksmith husband at the hands of Klansmen.

Gregory's parents were both slaves freed by the Civil War. After the death of his biological father, his free-born stepfather, Colonel George Gregory, gave him his name along with many of the advantages that could be offered in the South during Reconstruction.

Louis Gregory's education at the Avery Institute, Fisk University, and then Howard University's School of Law established him as one of the "Talented Tenth" W.E.B. DuBois' term for the capable, educated African Americans of the time.

Gregory established a successful law practice and became a rising star in Washington, D.C. There, he and other black leaders, such as Dubois, struggled over the issues of race that tore at the country and their own hearts. In 1909, Gregory became one of first followers of the Baha'i Faith in the United States, attracted largely by its teachings on the oneness of humanity. His extraordinary intellectual abilities and character propelled him into positions of responsibility in the clergyless religion during critical formative years of the American Baha'i community.

In 1912 he was elected to its nine-member national administrative body, becoming one of the first Blacks in the U.S. elected to leadership in a predominantly white organization. He was subsequently re-elected fifteen times. That same year, Gregory wed Louisa Mathew, a highly educated white English woman. Together, they shared a loving 40-year marriage, joined in "one spirit, one purpose."

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Gregory spoke and published articles on oneness and peace in addition to initiating "race amity" conventions across the country that featured such figures as Jane Addams, Harlem Renaissance philosopher Alain Locke, and anthropologist Franz Boas. The conventions attracted thousands of participants from all races and religions.

In 1917, Gregory left a successful law practice business and turned down an offer of a position on the Howard Law faculty to speak on oneness and equality at locations throughout the country. He traveled for 15 years to 48 states. The Gregorys sold their home to finance his journeys.

Though sometimes in danger and often unable even to travel with his wife, he spoke at colleges, churches, civic groups and women's clubs—addressing handfults to thousands with a dignity, eloquence and persuasiveness that made his a household name in black homes east of the Mississippi. He likely reached more people with the message of racial equality than any other figure of his day—primarily through personal contact.

On July 30, 1951, Louis Gregory passed away with his beloved wife at his side. In 1982 an exhaustive biography, *To Move the World*, was published. Schools, centers, and projects across the globe were named for him, including the Louis G. Gregory Baha'i Institute and WLGI Radio Baha'i, both in Hemingway, SC. Hundreds of children of all colors around the world also have been named in his memory.

In 2003, the first Charleston museum honoring any individual was established in Louis Gregory's childhood home.

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January

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						New Year's Day Emancipation Proclamation issued in 1863. 1
William Lloyd Garrison began publishing <i>The Liberator</i> , an abolitionist newspaper, in 1831. 2	Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. was elected chairperson of the House Committee on Education and Labor in 1961. 3	Grace Bumbry, opera singer, was born in 1937. 4	George Washington Carver died in 1943. 5	The World Anti-Slavery Convention opened in London, 1831. John Birks "Dizzy" Gillespie, famed musician, died in 1993. 6	Marian Anderson made her debut in the Metropolitan Opera House in 1955. 7	Fannie M. Jackson, educator and first African American woman college graduate in the US, was born in 1836. Butterfly McQueen, actress, born in 1911. 8
Fisk University established in 1866. 9	Southern Christian Leadership Conference founded in 1957. 10	Charles W. Anderson becomes first African American member of the Kentucky Legislature in 1936. 11	The Congressional Black Caucus organized in 1971. 12	Don Barksdale became first African American to play in an NBA All-Star Game, 1953. 13	John Oliver Killens, novelist, was born in 1916. 14	Martin Luther King, Jr. was born in 1929. 15
Jefferson Franklin Long took oath of office as first African American Congressman from Georgia, 1871. 16	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, (Observed) Cassius Clay (Muhammad Ali) born in 1942. 17	Robert C. Weaver became first African American presidential cabinet member, 1966. 18	Freed Blacks organized Savannah GA's first Baptist church in 1788. 19	Inauguration Day Barbara Jordan, congresswoman, was born in 1936. 20	William Brown-Chappell, pioneer aviator, was born in 1906. 21	Nat Turner, leader of the Virginia slave revolt, was born in 1800. 22
Dr. Daniel Hale Williams, pioneer in surgery, founded Provident Hospital in Chicago, IL, in 1889. 23	Coach Clarence "Big House" Gaines won record 800th college basketball game in 1990. 24	Sojourner Truth addressed the first Black Women's Rights Convention, 1851. 25	Bessie Coleman, first African American woman aviator, born in 1893. Angela Davis, activist, born in 1944. 26	Leontyne Price, world-renowned opera singer, made her debut at the Metropolitan Opera House, 1961. 27	Astronaut Ronald McNair died in Challenger explosion in 1986. 28	Oprah Winfrey born in 1954. 29
William Wells Brown, novelist and dramatist, published first Black drama, <i>Leap to Freedom</i> , 1858. 30	Jackie Robinson, first African American baseball player in the major leagues, was born in 1919. 31					

Gloria Schumpert James



Entrepreneur and Businesswoman

Gloria Schumpert James is an African American businesswoman operating in a predominantly white, male business world. She is the president of F.B. Schumpert Lumber Company, Incorporated. A native of Columbia, South Carolina, James is the only child of Frederick Benjamin and Bessie Barber Schumpert. Educated in Richland County public schools, she graduated from C.A. Johnson High School and received the Bachelor of Science degree from Virginia State College in Petersburg, Virginia. She then returned to Columbia and joined the family business.

F.B. Schumpert Lumber Co. originated in Chapin SC in the early 1900s when James' grandfather, J.A. Schumpert, operated a turpentine business to supplement his farming income. The turpentine business involved tapping pine trees. When his business was no longer viable, her father F.B. Schumpert established a logging company and sawmill company.

In 1939, James' father established F.B. Schumpert Lumber Co. at its current location in Columbia. For the first four decades, the company primarily manufactured and sold framing lumber to the home building industry throughout the eastern seaboard. As the success of any company depends on its ability to keep pace with changes in the marketplace, this company has had to diversify.

Today, the F.B. Schumpert Lumber Co. also manufactures and sells wood shipping components to industries and the government. These components include pallets, skids, boxes, crates, and specified cut lumber.

Business and industry research indicate that the vast majority of family run businesses do not survive the transition from one generation to the next. F.B. Schumpert Lumber Co., however, is a third generation family business that has managed to grow and prosper because of its solid foundation and current leadership.

Establishing and operating a successful business of this type in the early part of the 20th century was quite an accomplishment for a Black family in the segregated South.

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James and her husband, Marshall E. James, continue to uphold the reputation of their company by providing excellent goods and services to their customers. The company is celebrating 65 years of doing business in the Midlands of South Carolina.

James and her company have received many awards and recognitions, including the 1981 Economic Stability Award from the South Carolina Governor's Office of Small and Minority Businesses and the 2000 Supplier of the Year Award from the Midlands Minority Supplier Development Council.

Her community involvement includes board memberships on the Carolinas Minority Supplier Development Council, River Alliance, Greater Columbia Community Relations Council, and the Historic Columbia Foundation. She has also served on the boards of Heathwood Hall Episcopal School, Children Unlimited, St. Lawrence Place, and the Eboni Dance Theater.

She is affiliated with Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Chapin, SC, and is a member of the Second Calvary Baptist Church, Columbia Chapter of Links, Inc., Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and the NAACP.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		Langston Hughes was born in 1902.	Groundhog Day Ernest E. Just, biologist, received the Spingarn Medal for pioneering research on fertilization and cell division, 1914.	Geraldine McCullough won the Widener Gold Medal for Sculpture in 1965.	Rosa Parks was born in 1913.	Henry "Hank" Aaron, the home run king of major league baseball, was born in 1934.
		1	2	3	4	5
Jonathan Jasper Wright elected to South Carolina Supreme Court in 1870.	Eubie Blake, pianist, was born in 1883.	Oprah Winfrey became the first African American woman to host a nationally syndicated talk show in 1986.	In 1995 Bernard Harris became the first African American astronaut to take a spacewalk.	Roberta Flack, singer, was born in 1940.	Clifford Alexander, Jr., became the first African American Secretary of the Army in 1977.	Abraham Lincoln was born in 1809. Congress enacted the first fugitive slave law in 1793.
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Joseph L. Searles became the first African American member of the New York Stock Exchange, 1970.	Valentine's Day Frederick Douglass was born in 1817.	Henry Lewis was named director of the New Jersey Symphony in 1968. Nat King Cole died in 1965.	Joe Frazier became World Heavyweight Boxing Champion by a knockout in 1970.	Michael Jordan, basketball player, born in 1963.	Author Toni Morrison (born Chloe Anthony Wofford) was born in 1931.	William "Smoky" Robinson was born in 1940.
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Frederick Douglass died in 1895.	Presidents' Day Malcolm X was assassinated in 1965.	George Washington was born in 1732. Julius Winfield "Dr. J" Erving was born in 1950.	W.E.B. DuBois born in 1868.	In 1864 Rebecca Lee became the first African American woman to receive an M.D. degree.	Cassius Clay (Muhammad Ali) won World Heavyweight crown in 1964.	Singer "Fats" Domino was born in 1928.
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Marian Anderson, opera singer, was born in 1902.	Richard Wright's <i>Native Son</i> published in 1940.	<i>Leap Years, February 29:</i> Hattie McDaniel became the first black (male or female) to win an Oscar (for Best Supporting Actress) for her role as Mammy in <i>Gone With The Wind</i> in 1940				
27	28					

Paul Brawley and Wendy C. Brawley



Small Business Owners

Paul and Wendy C. Brawley are co-founders of IMARA Woman, a statewide lifestyle and personal-growth magazine for women of color. Paul Brawley is also president and CEO of Brawley Business-Government Solutions, Inc., a technology consulting firm specializing in information technology, project management and electronic commerce.

He simultaneously holds the position of vice-president and chief financial officer of IMARA Woman. As a corporate partner, Wendy Brawley is founder and president of Events Unlimited, Inc., a conference planning and events management company in Columbia. She maintains the position as publisher and CEO of IMARA Woman.

A graduate of Limestone College, Paul Brawley earned a dual Master's degree in business and management from Webster University. In addition to serving formerly as deputy director in the Division of Economic Opportunity-Office of the Governor, he also held the title of deputy director for the Office of Information Systems in the South Carolina Department of Social Services (DSS).

Brawley implemented the innovation of replacing paper food stamps with electronic benefit cards when he worked as electronic benefits transfer administrator in DSS.

Paul Brawley serves on numerous professional and community boards including former membership on the Board of South Carolina Families for Kids and current membership on the Board for Interfaith Community Services for South Carolina and the Palmetto Department Group/Housing Consortium.

In 1995 he was honored with South Carolina's Order of Palmetto and subsequently received Smithsonian Institute *Computerworld* Medal for innovation in the public sector.

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Wendy Brawley is a graduate of the University of South Carolina and alumna of Webster University where she earned a Master's degree in Business Management. She has obtained the Certified Meeting Professional designation, making her one of only 19 certified meeting planners in the State of South Carolina.

Among a variety of local and statewide boards, she serves on the Central Carolina Community Foundation Board, Columbia College Board of Visitors, and the South Carolina Community Bank's Board of Directors.

In 1998, Wendy Brawley was named Minority Business Person of the Year by the Greater Columbia Chamber of Commerce. She was selected by the *ConventionSouth* Magazine as "Meeting Planner to Watch in the New Millennium" in 2000, 2001, and 2002.

She has served on the S.C. Chamber of Commerce's Minority Outreach Task Force and is currently a member of the S.C. Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. She is also a member of the National Coalition of Black Meeting Planners.

The Brawleys are active members of the St. Phillip African Methodist Episcopal Church in Eastover.

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March

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		<p>Writer Ralph Ellison was born in 1914.</p> <p>1</p>	<p>Dr. Jerome H. Holland elected to the board of directors of the New York Stock Exchange in 1972.</p> <p>2</p>	<p>Carole Gist was crowned first Black Miss USA in 1990.</p> <p>3</p>	<p>Garrett A. Morgan, scientist and inventor, was born in 1877.</p> <p>4</p>	<p>Blanche Kelso Bruce of Mississippi elected to full term in U.S. Senate in 1975.</p> <p>5</p>
<p>Dred Scott decision handed down by Supreme Court in 1857.</p> <p>6</p>	<p>First cadets graduated from flying school at Tuskegee in 1942.</p> <p>7</p>	<p>Senate refuses to seat P.B.S. Pinchback of Louisiana in 1876.</p> <p>8</p>	<p>Clifton Wharton is sworn in as ambassador to Norway in 1961.</p> <p>9</p>	<p>Harriet Tubman died in 1913.</p> <p>10</p>	<p>Lorraine Hansberry play, <i>Raisin in the Sun</i>, opened on Broadway in 1959.</p> <p>11</p>	<p>Andrew Young was born in 1932.</p> <p>12</p>
<p>Fannie Lou Hamer, activist, dies, 1977.</p> <p>13</p>	<p>Quincy Jones, composer and musician, was born in 1933.</p> <p>14</p>	<p><i>Los Angeles Sentinel</i> founded by Leon H. Washington in 1933.</p> <p>15</p>	<p><i>Freedom's Journal</i> founded in 1827.</p> <p>16</p>	<p>St. Patrick's Day Jackie Robinson made his professional debut as a member of the Montreal Royals in 1946.</p> <p>17</p>	<p>Charlie Pride, country singer, was born in 1938.</p> <p>18</p>	<p>Nat King Cole was born in 1919.</p> <p>19</p>
<p><i>Uncle Tom's Cabin</i> by Harriet Beecher Stowe was published in 1852.</p> <p>20</p>	<p>Selma march began in 1965.</p> <p>21</p>	<p>Marcus Garvey, Black nationalist, arrived in America from Jamaica, 1916.</p> <p>22</p>	<p>NBA star, Moses "The Mailman" Malone was born in 1954.</p> <p>23</p>	<p>AME Zion Church organized in S.C. in 1867.</p> <p>24</p>	<p>Poll Tax ruled unconstitutional in 1966.</p> <p>25</p>	<p>William H. Hastie confirmed as Federal District Judge of the Virgin Islands in 1937.</p> <p>26</p>
<p>Arthur Mitchell, dancer and choreographer, was born in 1934.</p> <p>27</p>	<p>Slavery abolished in New York in 1799.</p> <p>28</p>	<p>Pearl Bailey was born in 1918.</p> <p>29</p>	<p>15th Amendment was enacted in 1870.</p> <p>30</p>	<p>Jack Johnson, first Black heavyweight champion, was born in 1878.</p> <p>31</p>		

James Roland Clark, M.D.



Medical Doctor and
Sickle Cell Anemia Expert

Dr. James Roland Clark, son of Essex and Emily Clark, was born in Columbia, South Carolina on June 29, 1937. He attended Waverly Elementary School and graduated in 1954 as valedictorian from C.A. Johnson High School where he also was elected Student Council President. Clark received a Bachelor of Science degree from Blackburn College in Carlinville, Illinois. At Blackburn College, he served as president of his senior class and president of the Blackburn Student Council.

Upon graduation from Blackburn, Clark pursued further study in biochemistry at Washington University in St. Louis. Subsequently, he graduated with honors from the Howard University Medical School in 1961. Clark served as a Captain in the Medical Corps of the United States Army from 1964-1967. He completed his residency in Internal Medicine at the University of California Medical Center in San Francisco in 1970.

During 1970 and 1971, Clark directed a free clinic in the Haight-Ashbury District of San Francisco. Following this humanitarian experience, he returned to his hometown of Columbia and established a private practice in internal medicine. He was a member of the Columbia Medical Society, the South Carolina Medical Association, the Palmetto Medical, Dental, and Pharmaceutical Association, the Congaree Medical, Dental and Pharmaceutical Association and the Columbia Medical Forum. Clark was elected Chairman of the Hypertension Task Force of the South Carolina Heart Association.

In addition to being a lifetime member of the NAACP, he served as a member of the Board of Directors and Vice President-Elect of the South Carolina Heart Association and a member of the Board of Directors of the Family Service Center.

Clark was recognized as an expert on sickle cell anemia and was one of the founders of the Columbia Area Sickle Cell Anemia Foundation (CASCAF), as well as a board member and medical advisor to the organization.

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Following his tragic and untimely death in February 1979, the organization's name was officially changed to the James R. Clark Memorial Sickle Cell Foundation.

Today, the agency serves 15 South Carolina counties through its main office in Columbia and satellite offices in Newberry, Winnsboro, Camden, Florence and Sumter. Blackburn College also established the James R. Clark Memorial Scholarship in his memory.

Clark will always be remembered as a model of idealism that translated into the highest level of humanity in giving and caring for others and for his community. He was a physician who gave willingly of his time to help scores of needy patients, providing a standard of excellence in medical care among poor African Americans who had been historically denied access to such services.

"Doctor Jim" had a basic, unshakable, and unyielding trust in his fellow human beings. He was loved and respected by everyone with whom he came in contact because he embodied compassion, empathy, and genuine love for others.

2005

South Carolina
**AFRICAN
AMERICAN**
HISTORY CALENDAR

April

SUNDAY

MONDAY


TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

					April Fool's Day Hampton Institute opened in 1868. 1	John Thompson became the first African American coach to win NCAA basketball tournament, 1984. 2
Daylight Savings Time Begins Carter G. Woodson, the father of African American history, died in 1950. 3	Maya Angelou, author, was born in 1928. 4	Colin Powell was born in 1937. 5	Robert E. Perry and Matthew Henson reached the North Pole in 1909. 6	Billie Holiday, blues singer, was born in 1917. 7	Hank Aaron hit his 715th home run in 1974. 8	Civil Rights Bill granting citizenship passed in 1866. 9
Richard Allen was made Bishop of the AME Church in 1916. 10	Spelman College was founded in 1881. 11	Free African Society organized in 1787. 12	Thomas Jefferson's birthday. 13	The first abolition society in the U.S. was founded in Pennsylvania, 1775. 14	Jackie Robinson made Major League debut in 1947. 15	Founding of Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee in 1960. 16
Rev. Ralph David Abernathy died in 1990. 17	Alex Haley won the Pulitzer Prize for <i>Roots</i> , 1977. 18	Cheyney State College, one of the oldest Black colleges in the US, founded in 1837. 19	Harriet Tubman started working on the Underground Railroad, 1853. 20	Pvt. Milton L. Olive, III, was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor posthumously, 1966. 21	Charles Mingus, bassist, composer, pianist and bandleader, was born in 1922. 22	Granville T. Woods, inventor of over 40 products, was born in 1856. 23
The United Negro College Fund was established in 1944. 24	Ella Fitzgerald, singer, was born in 1917. 25	William "Count" Basie, jazz pianist and musician, died in 1984. 26	Coretta Scott King, activist and wife of Martin Luther King, was born in 1927. 27	Samuel L. Gravelly became first African American admiral in the US Navy, 1962. 28	"Duke" Ellington, musician and composer, was born in 1899. 29	Wallace Saunders wrote the song "Casey Jones" in 1900. 30

Abraham J. Turner



Brigadier General

Brigadier General Abraham J. Turner, a native of Mount Pleasant, South Carolina, graduated from South Carolina State University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in music. He also earned a Master's Degree in public administration from Shippensburg University in Shippensburg, Pennsylvania.

While enrolled at South Carolina State University, Turner was active in the ROTC program. He received his United States Army commission as a Second Lieutenant in 1976. He is also a graduate of several military schools including the Infantry Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, the United States Army Command and General Staff College, and the United States Army War College.

Turner has held numerous positions throughout his Army career and has commanded at the company, battalion, and brigade levels. Currently, Turner commands the nation's largest initial entry training post, Fort Jackson in South Carolina, where an average of over 40,000 soldiers per year are trained for the Army.

His assignments have included Executive Officer and later commander, B Company 1st Battalion, 1st Advanced Individual Training Brigade, Fort Benning; Instructor, 3rd Ranger Company, Fort Benning; S4, 2nd BN, 505th Infantry, Fort Bragg; Commander, A Co, 2-505 Infantry, Fort Bragg; Schools Commandant, G3, Fort Bragg; Assistant Professor of Military Science, South Carolina State College, Orangeburg SC; S3 (Operations), 1-5 Infantry, Korea; S4 1st Brigade Fort Bragg; Executive Officer, 1-504 Infantry Fort Bragg; Deputy G3 (Operations) 82nd Airborne Fort Bragg; Commander 3-504 Infantry Fort Bragg; Regimental Tactical Officer, West Point; Commander, Infantry Training Brigade Fort Benning; Chief, Joint Exercise and Training Division, J7 Washington DC; Special Assistant to the Assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs

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of Staff, Washington DC; Chief, House Legislative Liaison Division, Office of the Chief, Legislative Division Washington DC; Assistant Division Commander (Operations) 82nd Airborne Fort Bragg; and Assistant Chief of Staff, C3, Coalition Forces Land Component Command, Camp Doha Kuwait.

His last assignment prior to commanding Fort Jackson was Operations Officer for the Coalition Forces Land Component Command (CFLCC) in Kuwait in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom/Enduring Freedom.

Turner's combat experiences include a combat jump into Panama during Operation Just Cause in December 1989; a deployment to Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm from 1990-1991; and deployment to the Coalition Forces Land Component Command in Kuwait in 2003.

His awards include the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit (with Oak Leaf Cluster), the Bronze Star Medal (with Oak Leaf Cluster), the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal (with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters), the Army Commendation Medal (with Oak Leaf Cluster), the Army Achievement Medal (with Oak Leaf Cluster); the Combat Infantry Badge, the Expert Infantry Badge, the Master Parachutist Badge (with Combat Star), the Pathfinder Badge, the Ranger Tab, the Joint Chiefs of Staff Identification Badge, and the Army Staff Identification Badge.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Howard University in Washington D.C. opened in 1867. 1	Elijah McCoy, inventor and holder of over fifty patents, was born in 1844. 2	Sugar Ray Robinson, middleweight boxing champion was born in 1920. 3	Freedom Rides began in 1961. Plessy vs. Ferguson upheld "Separate But Equal" doctrine in 1896. 4	Gwendolyn Brooks became the first Black person awarded a Pulitzer Prize, for <i>Annie Allen</i> , in 1950. 5	Civil Rights Act signed by President Eisenhower in 1960. 6	J.R. Winters patented the fire escape, 1878. 7
Mother's Day Rev. Henry McNeal Turner died in 1915. 8	Slaves in Georgia, Florida and South Carolina were freed, 1862. 9	P.B.S. Pinchback, first Black state governor, was born in 1837. 10	Dancer Martha Graham was born in 1854. 11	Robert Smalls seized Confederate warship in 1862. 12	Joe Louis was born in 1914. 13	In 1804 a slave known only as York accompanied Lewis and Clark on their expedition. 14
Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, founded at Indiana University, was incorporated in 1911. 15	Sammy Davis, Jr. died in 1990. 16	Brown vs. Board of Education made "Separate But Equal" in public schools unconstitutional in 1954. 17	Reggie Jackson, baseball player, was born in 1946. 18	Malcolm X was born in 1925. 19	Robert N. C. Nix was elected to United States Congress in 1958 20	Lowell W. Perry was confirmed as chairman of the Equal Opportunity Commission (EEOC) in 1975. 21
Claude McKay, poet, died in 1948. 22	Bob Marley, reggae legend, dies in 1981. 23	Hal McRae was named manager of the Kansas City Royals in 1991. Patti LaBelle was born in 1944. 24	Madame C. J. Walker, entrepreneur, died in 1919. Miles Davis, jazz musician, born in 1926. 25	Althea Gibson won the French Open, becoming the first Black tennis player to win a major tennis title, 1956. 26	Louis Gossett, Jr., actor, was born in 1936. 27	Eliza Ann Gardner, underground railroad conductor, was born in 1831. 28
Thomas Bradley was elected mayor of Los Angeles in 1973. 29	Memorial Day Countee Cullen, poet, was born in 1903. 30	NAACP held first conference (as the National Negro Committee) in 1909. 31				

Diane E. Sumpter



Entrepreneur and Businesswoman

Diane E. Sumpter, founder, president and chief executive officer of DESA, Inc., has spent more than 20 years working as a catalyst for change in South Carolina and the nation. As a business leader, she has concentrated on economic development while leading advocacy efforts for small, minority and women owned businesses.

As a community activist, Sumpter has dedicated time and resources to the causes of educational advancement and cultural awareness. As chief executive officer, she has boldly set the pace for DESA's short- and long-term corporate growth while earning national recognition for exceptional service to minority and women-owned businesses.

Sumpter has strategically grown DESA from a small local enterprise into a successful and diverse corporate entity comprised of four major divisions with locations in three states. The company's four business lines include Professional/Administrative Management, Construction Services, Facilities Support and Business Services.

DESA provides information and services from project conception to completion. Examples of DESA's services are conference and events management, construction project management, facilities support and maintenance and administrative support to federal, state, municipal and private entities.

Sumpter's commitment to the development and growth of minority and women-owned business is evidenced by her work with the South Carolina Minority Business Development Center (operated by DESA). The Center has assisted businesses by identifying, supporting and acting as a liaison to facilitate business growth for more than a decade.

Since DESA began in 1986, it has been awarded professional service contracts from the United States Department of Health and Human Services, the U.S. Department of Commerce, the Minority Business Development Agency, the U.S. Department of the Army, the U.S. Department of the Air Force, the

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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Small Business Administration, as well as numerous contracts from the private sector.

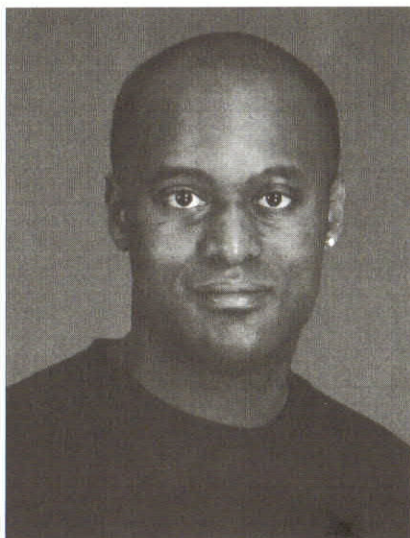
In addition to being a board and life member of the NAACP, Sumpter is a member of the following Boards of Directors: SC Small Business Chamber of Commerce, SC Council on Competitiveness, SC Minority Contractors Association, East Richland County Public Service District, Partners in Education for Richland County School District Two.

A few of the awards that have been received by DESA and Sumpter are: Cited as one of the "People to Watch in Business in the Midlands for 2001" by *The State* newspaper, "2002 Top Performance Award for the South Carolina Statewide Minority Business Development Center," AS-Salaam Construction Education Foundation's Community Service Award for 2002, and the 2003 Visionary Service Award.

A native of Jacksonville, Florida, Sumpter moved to Columbia, South Carolina and graduated from Booker T. Washington High School. She continued her education by earning her undergraduate and graduate degrees in English and Social Work, respectively, from the University of South Carolina. A proponent of life long learning, she has completed numerous professional development courses throughout her career.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			Sojourner Truth began anti-slavery activist career in 1843.	T. Thomas Fortune, journalist, died in 1928.	Wesley A. Brown became the first Black graduate of Annapolis Naval Academy in 1949.	Arna Bontemps, writer and educator, died in 1973.
			1	2	3	4
In 1955, Martin Luther King Jr. was awarded his doctorate from Boston University.	Congress of Racial Equality founded in 1942.	Pulitzer Prize winning poet Gwendolyn Brooks was born in 1917.	Supreme Court banned segregation in Washington, D.C. restaurants in 1953.	Meta-Vaux Warick Fuller, sculptor, was born in 1877.	Hattie McDaniel, first Black person to win an Oscar (for Best Supporting Actress in <i>Gone With The Wind</i> , (1940), was born in 1898.	Hazel Dorothy Scott, classical pianist and singer, was born in 1920.
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Medger Evers, civil rights activist, was assassinated in 1963.	Thurgood Marshall appointed to U.S. Supreme Court in 1967.	Flag Day Harold D. West was named president of Meharry Medical College, 1952.	Errol Garner, singer and musician, was born in 1923.	Denmark Vesey led slave rebellion in South Carolina in 1822.	Thomas Ezekiel Miller, congressman, was born in 1849.	Nannie Burroughs founded National Training School for Women, 1909.
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Father's Day Tennessee University opens as Tennessee A&L State College in 1912.	Dr. Lloyd A. Hall, pioneer in food chemistry, was born in 1894.	Arthur Ashe, tennis champion, led UCLA to NCAA tennis championship, 1965.	Joe Louis became youngest world heavyweight boxing champion in 1937.	Track star Wilma Rudolph was born in 1909.	John R. Lynch became first African American to preside over deliberations of a national political party in 1884.	Joe Louis defeated Primo Carnera at Yankee Stadium in 1935.
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
James Weldon Johnson died in 1938.	Paul Laurence Dunbar, poet and novelist, was born in 1872.	Organization for Afro-American Unity founded in 1964.	James Van Der Zee, photographer, was born in Lenox, MA, in 1886.	Lena Horne, actress, vocalist and activist was born in 1917.		
26	27	28	29	30		

Isom Batrone Lowman, Jr.



Entrepreneur

Isom Batrone Lowman, Jr., son of Irma Smith Lowman and Col. (Ret.) Dr. Isom Lowman, was born on April 21, 1976 at Fort Benning, Georgia. He is a 1994 graduate of Spring Valley High School's Honors Program where he excelled in sports and leadership as well as academics. He majored in pre-medicine and business at Morehouse College, graduating Cum Laude.

While matriculating at Morehouse College and serving as Freshman Class president, Lowman created and spearheaded funding for an after-school tutoring and mentoring program for children residing at University homes.

Lowman's entrepreneurial gift surfaced at the early age of six. He took pictures at a family reunion and sold them to family members. He sold candy to his classmates, thus igniting his thirst for free enterprise. Unknown by his parents, Lowman was employed while attending Morehouse, investing his earnings into stocks. By the time he graduated, he had accumulated \$60,000. He used the funds to purchase his first Athlete's Foot franchise.

Lowman opened his initial franchise in June 1999 in Decatur, Georgia. Shortly thereafter, the store won awards for "Highest Sales per Square Foot," "Highest Percent Increase," and "Highest Total Volume." He opened a second franchise six months later. Today, The Isom Lowman Group, Inc. has grown to over 13 stores and is the largest domestic franchisee (total volume) in "The Athlete's Foot" system.

The Isom Lowman Group has several stores including Fame Sports, Athlete's Foot, and Supreme Footwear which are located in Underground Atlanta.

Recently, Lowman expanded his operations to include two stores in New Orleans, Louisiana. Lowman has served on the advisory council of

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The Athlete's Foot. He was invited to Nike's 2003 Urban Summit in Portland, Oregon, where he spoke on issues concerning retailers in the southeast. Lowman has also designed exclusive shoes, apparel, and fitted hats manufactured by Reebok, New Era, and American needle on behalf of his company.

Lowman has received numerous honors and awards for his community service and philanthropy. He has adopted several families and schools in addition to creating and financing investment clubs at local schools and for his employees. Lowman and his store managers are mentors for a penal institution where they give inmates an opportunity for a new start through employment. He received the 2003 "Minority Retailer of the Year" award from the Governor of Georgia.

Lowman credits his family, all employees of The Isom Lowman Group, Inc. and God for giving him the opportunity to succeed.

2005

South Carolina
**AFRICAN
 AMERICAN**
 HISTORY CALENDAR

July

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					Carl Lewis, athlete, was born in 1961. 1	Civil Rights Act of 1964 signed. Thurgood Marshall was born in 1908. 2
First African American baseball player in the major leagues, Jackie Robinson, was named to Baseball Hall of Fame in 1962. 3	Independence Day Tuskegee Institute established in 1881. Slavery abolished in New York in 1827. 4	Arthur Ashe, won the men's Wimbledon singles championship in 1975. 5	Althea Gibson won Wimbledon in 1957. 6	Margaret Walker, writer, was born in 1915. 7	Venus Williams wins Wimbledon in 2000. 8	Francis L. Cardozo installed as South Carolina's Secretary of State in 1868. 9
Mary McLeod Bethune, educator, was born in 1875. 10	Civil rights activist W.E.B. Dubois founded the Niagara Movement in 1905. 11	Bill Cosby, entertainer, was born in 1937. 12	Continental Congress excluded slavery from Northwest Territory in 1787. 13	George Washington Carver National Monument dedicated in Joplin MO in 1951. 14	Pompey Lamb, noted spy, aids the American Revolutionary War effort, 1779. 15	V. A. Johnson, first Black female to argue before the US Supreme Court, was born in 1882. 16
Billie Holiday, singer, died in 1959. 17	Lemuel Hayes, first Black Congregationalist minister, was born in 1753. 18	Patricia R. Harris named secretary of health, education and welfare in 1979. 19	First U.S. Victory in Korea was won by African American troops in the 24th Infantry Regiment, in 1950. 20	The 14th Amendment was ratified in 1868. National Association of Colored Women was founded in 1896. 21	Abraham Lincoln read the first draft of Emancipation Proclamation to the cabinet in 1861. 22	Louis Tompkins Wright, physician, was born in 1924. 23
Mary Church Terrell, educator, died in 1954. 24	Garrett T. Morgan, inventor of the gas mask, rescues six from gas-filled tunnel in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1916. 25	Patrick Francis Healy, first African American awarded a Ph.D. in 1865. President Truman banned discrimination in the armed services in 1948. 26	Inventor A.P. Abourne was awarded patent for refining coconut oil in 1880. 27	The 14th Amendment was adopted in 1868. 28	The first National Convention of Black Women was held in Boston, MA in 1895. 29	Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., activist and politician, was elected congressman from Harlem in 1945. 30
Whitney Young, an executive director of the National Urban League, was born in 1921. 31						

Willie L. Johnson



Police Chief

Willie L. Johnson is the first African American and the 23rd Chief of Police for the City of Greenville.

A 1967 graduate of Sanders High School in Laurens, South Carolina, Johnson earned an associate degree in criminal justice from Greenville Technical College in 1975 and a Bachelor of Science degree from Southern Wesleyan University in Central, South Carolina.

Johnson is a graduate of the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy and a 1984 alumnus of the FBI National Academy. He complemented his criminal justice studies by graduating from the American Baptist Theological Center, known as the Martin Webb Learning Center.

Johnson is a Vietnam veteran who was decorated with the Bronze Star Medal, South Vietnam Campaign Ribbon, and Combat Assault Award.

In 1970, after three years of military service, he began his law enforcement career with the Greenville Police Department. He began as a patrolman, and served as detective, sergeant, lieutenant, captain, major, and ultimately became chief of police in July 2000.

Johnson is actively involved in the community and serves on several boards. He is a member of the Greenville Downtown Rotary Club, Greenville Urban League of the Upstate, Inc., Save Our Sons, The Phyllis Wheatley Association, Boy Scouts of America, YMCA, American Legion, VFW Post 6734, Greenville CrimeStoppers, Greenville Braves Advisory Board, COGNIS Chemical Corporation Advisory Board, and also serves as a City of Mauldin Election Commissioner.

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Johnson is the 1993 recipient of the Honorable Senator Strom Thurmond Award for Law Enforcement Excellence, 1993 Church and Community Relations Award, 1994 Greenville Downtown Rotary Club Officer of the Year, 1995 Judge Billy Wilkins Court Award, 2000 Save Our Sons Board Member of the Year, 2000 SHARE Community Services Award, and many other honors.

Johnson recognizes that education is the key to success and believes in "a baptized heart and mind."

2005

South Carolina
AFRICAN
AMERICAN
HISTORY CALENDAR

August

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

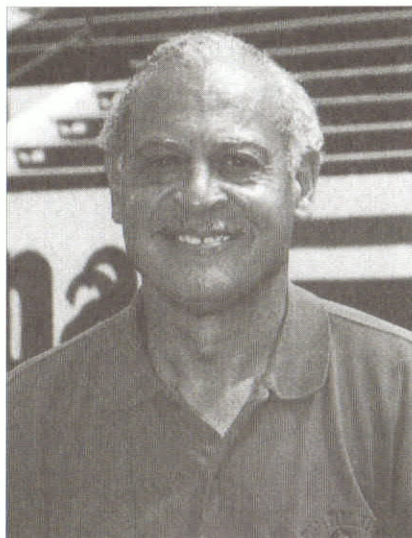
THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

	Whitney Young named executive director of National Urban League in 1961. Benjamin E. Mays was born in 1895.	James Baldwin, writer, was born in 1924.	The Congress of African Peoples convention was held in Atlanta in 1970.	"Long" John Woodruff won an Olympic gold medal in the 800-meter run in 1936.	Edwin Moses and Evelyn Ashford won gold medals in Olympic track & field in 1984.	Voting Rights Act signed by President Johnson in 1965.
	1	2	3	4	5	6
Ralph J. Bunche, diplomat and first African American winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, was born in 1904.	Matthew A. Henson, explorer and first to reach the North Pole, was born in 1865.	Jesse Owens won four Olympic gold medals in 1936.	Clarence C. White, composer and violinist, died in 1880.	Thaddeus Stevens, abolitionist, died in 1868.	Frederick Douglass' home in Washington D.C. was declared a national shrine in 1922.	<i>Baltimore Afro-American Newspaper</i> was founded in 1892.
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Ernest Everett Just, scientist, born in 1883.	Liberia established by freed American slaves, 1824.	Louis Lomax, author, was born in 1922.	Marcus Garvey was born in 1887.	The first African American admitted to the University of Mississippi, James Meredith, graduated in 1963.	Benjamin Banneker published his first <i>Almanac</i> in 1791.	Richard Allen chaired the first National Negro Convention in Philadelphia in 1830.
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
William "Count" Basie, jazz pianist and musician, was born in 1904.	John Lee Hooker, blues singer and guitarist, was born in 1917.	National Negro Business League founded in 1900.	Edith Sampson was appointed first African American delegate to the United Nations by Harry S. Truman, in 1950.	Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters organized in 1925.	William Dawson elected Black Democratic Party vice-presidential candidate, 1943.	W.E.B. DuBois died in 1963.
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
March on Washington in 1963.	Charlie "Bird" Parker, jazz musician, was born in Kansas City in 1920.	Lt. Col. Guion S. Bluford, Jr. became the first African American astronaut in space in 1983.	Eldridge Cleaver was born in 1935.			
28	29	30	31			

Willie Jeffries



Football Coach

Willie Jeffries, a native of Union, South Carolina, earned his Bachelor's degree in civil engineering and a Master's degree in guidance and counseling from South Carolina State University. Additionally, he studied at Indiana University.

Jeffries recently completed a 19-year career as head football coach at South Carolina State University (SCSU). He retired following the 2001 campaign, a season in which his team won its last five contests to finish 6-5. Currently, Jeffries remains at SCSU as Director of Athletic Fund Raising.

He began his first tenure at SCSU in 1973, completing an impressive 50-13-4 record in six seasons. Following a hiatus from SCSU, 1978-1989, Jeffries returned to begin his second tenure which spanned 13 years.

Jeffries very first coaching position was as an assistant coach at Lancaster's Barr Street High School in 1960. A head coaching position followed in 1961 at Granard High in Gaffney, where he compiled a six-year 65-7-2 mark, and won three (1964-1966) consecutive state AAA championships

During his remarkable 29-year collegiate head-coaching career, which included five-year stints each at Wichita State and Howard, Jeffries compiled a 179-132-6 record. This enviable record included six Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) championships, two national titles, several post-season appearances, and numerous coaching awards. Jeffries also produced a number of players who have distinguished themselves in professional football and other professions as well.

Jeffries won almost 60 percent of the college games he coached, which made him the "winningest" coach in the 107-year history of SCSU and owner of more MEAC victories than any other coach.

His early success as Bulldog head coach earned him national notoriety, and subsequently, a number of coaching offers. He passed up several opportunities to serve as an assistant in the National Football League.

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South Carolina
**AFRICAN
AMERICAN**
HISTORY CALENDAR

After returning to his alma mater, Jeffries went on to produce seven winning teams, including a string of five straight from 1991-1995. In 1994, he tied the school record for the number of wins during a 10-2 season, and captured the MEAC championship, the Bulldogs' first conference title in 11 seasons. Jeffries also earned a national title and made three Heritage Bowl appearances after returning to Orangeburg in 1989.

The Bulldog mentor is enshrined in three athletic halls. The latest honor came in 1998 when he was inducted into the SCSU Athletic Hall of Fame. He is also in the South Carolina Athletic Hall of Fame, and the MEAC Hall of Fame.

Jeffries has received numerous honors, including the Order of the Silver Crescent, the Palmetto State's highest award for outstanding community service. He also received the Order of the Palmetto, the state's highest civilian award. A scholarship fund and endowment have been established in his name at SCSU. During the 2002 school year, he was honored by the Black Coaches' Association (BCA) with a lifetime achievement award and inducted into the Palmetto State's Black Hall of Fame.

He is a member of several coaching, professional and civic organizations, including the American Football Coaches Association and Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. Two years ago, he was appointed to the NCAA Football Rules Committee.

Jeffries is an outstanding ambassador for SCSU, the Orangeburg community, the Palmetto State and the nation.

2005

South Carolina
**AFRICAN
AMERICAN**
HISTORY CALENDAR

September

SUNDAY

MONDAY



TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

 				General Daniel "Chappie" James, Jr. named Commander-in-Chief of North American Air Defense Command in 1975.	Frank Robinson, professional baseball player, named MVP of the American League, 1966.	Charles Houston, NAACP leader, was born in 1895.
				1	2	3
Louis Latimer, inventor and engineer, was born in 1848.	Labor Day George Washington Murray was elected to Congress from South Carolina in 1895.	The National Black Convention met in Cleveland in 1848.	Integration in public schools began in Washington, DC and Baltimore, MD in 1954.	Althea Gibson became the first African American athlete to win a U.S. national tennis championship in 1957.	Carter G. Woodson founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History in 1915.	Mordecai Johnson, first Black president of Howard University, died in 1976.
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
"Duke" Ellington won Spingarn Medal for his musical achievements in 1959.	Jackie Robinson, first Black baseball player in the major leagues, was named National League Rookie of the Year, 1947.	Alain L. Locke, philosopher and first Black Rhodes Scholar, was born in 1886.	U.S. Cabinet member Constance Baker Motley was born in 1921.	Dr. Mae Jemison became first African American female astronaut in space in 1992.	Claude A. Barnett, founder of the Associated Negro Press, was born in 1889.	United States Constitution signed in 1787.
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Booker T. Washington delivered "Atlanta Compromise" address in 1895.	Atlanta University was founded in 1865.	First episode of "The Cosby Show" aired in 1984.	F.W. Leslie, inventor, patented the envelope seal in 1891.	Ralph Bunch awarded Nobel Peace Prize in 1950.	John Coltrane, innovative and famed jazz musician, was born in 1926.	Nine African American students integrated Little Rock High School in 1957.
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Barbara W. Hancock became the first African American woman named a White House fellow, 1974.	Bessie Smith, blues singer, died in 1937.	<i>Memphis Blues</i> published in 1912.	<i>Appeal to the Colored Citizens of the World</i> published in 1929.	Hugh Mulzac, first African American captain of a U.S. merchant ship, launched with the <i>Booker T. Washington</i> in 1942.	Johnny Mathis, singer, was born in 1935.	
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Horace Ott



Musician

Horace Ott, record producer, arranger, conductor, composer, and pianist, was born in St. Matthews, South Carolina. He was educated at John Ford High School and graduated from Wilkinson High School in Orangeburg where he wrote an arrangement for Duke Ellington's "Satin Doll". Ott matriculated at South Carolina State University earning a Bachelor's degree.

While on leave in New York from the U.S. Army, Horace states that he "accidentally rediscovered Gloria, my childhood friend from home in St. Matthews. We began a lifetime together of music and family."

Ott further states, "While I enjoy a life that allows me to perform, compose, and orchestrally arrange music, this life also allows me to artistically demonstrate my God given talents to the world in many genres of music. I consider myself a very fortunate musician to have received so many honors for simply doing my job. I also feel a sense of guilt, since I tend to enjoy every minute of this, my self-chosen, but, God-given, life's work."

Horace was privileged to arrange, record and/or conduct with some of his favorite artists. Among them are Sam Cook, Nat King Cole, Count Basie with Joe Williams, Dizzy Gillespie, Nina Simone, Shirley Bassey, Aretha Franklin, Solomon Burke, Roberta Flack, Johnny Mathis, Roberto Carlos, George Benson, Jerry Butler, Carla Thomas, the Shirelles, Little Anthony and the Imperials, Joe DeFrancesco, the Stylistics, and others.

Some of Ott's arrangements and/or recordings range from "You Don't Have to Be a Star" for Marilyn McCoo and Billy Davis; recording two heavyweight boxing champions—Muhammad Ali and Joe Frazier; to "Lush Life" for Joe Williams.

He has music in a variety of productions to include 22 Nina Simone albums, 40 Eric Burden and the Animals albums, 80 albums by Santa Esmeralda featuring Leroy Gomez and one song, "YMCA," that is in more than 200 titled albums. Ott's arrangement of "YMCA" by the Village People is now circling the earth in a time capsule.

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Special and greatly treasured moments for Horace Ott were his performances at the White House, Carnegie Hall, Radio City Music Hall, "The Grammy's," "The Essence Awards," the John F. Kennedy Performing Arts Center, the David Letterman Show, *Saturday Night Live*, and the Jackson Family Christmas Show.

Ott recalls a memorable two-week stint at the Tropicana Hotel in Las Vegas with the Count Basie Orchestra and Basie's legendary crooner, Joe Williams. After Ott collaborated with Williams on the singer's 1970 album "Worth Waiting For," Williams invited Ott to play the piano and conduct the Basie Orchestra while he performed songs for the album.

2005

South Carolina
**AFRICAN
AMERICAN**
HISTORY CALENDAR

October

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

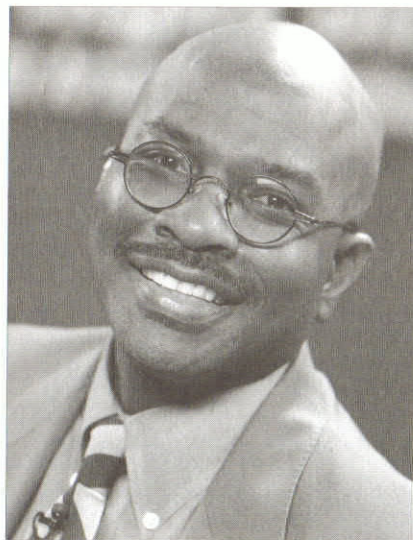
THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

						Colin Powell was appointed first African American chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, 1989. 1
Thurgood Marshall was sworn in, becoming the first African American Supreme Court Justice in 1967. 2	Nat King Cole was the first Black performer to host his own TV show in 1956. 3	National Black Convention met in Syracuse NY in 1864. 4	Congresswoman Yvonne Burke was born in 1932. 5	Fisk Jubilee Singers began national tour in 1871. 6	Toni Morrison became first African American to win Nobel Prize in literature. 7	Jesse Jackson was born in 1941. 8
O.B. Clare patented the rail trestle in 1888. 9	Columbus Day Singer Ben Vereen was born in 1946. 10	A. Miles patented the elevator in 1887. 11	Richard ("Dick") Gregory was born in 1932. 12	Arna W. Bontemps, noted poet, was born in 1902. 13	Martin Luther King, Jr. awarded Nobel Peace Prize in 1964. 14	Clarence Thomas confirmed to the U.S. Supreme Court in 1992. 15
John Brown led attack on Harper's Ferry in 1859. 16	Capital Savings Bank opened in Washington DC in 1888. 17	Novelist Terry McMillan was born in 1951. 18	The U.S. Navy was opened to African American women in 1944. 19	John Merrick organized North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company, 1898. 20	"Dizzy" Gillespie was born in Cheraw SC in 1917. 21	Clarence S. Green became the first African American certified in neurological surgery. 22
The NAACP petitioned the United Nations about racial injustice in 1947. 23	Jackie Robinson died in 1972. 24	Benjamin O. Davis became the first African American general in U.S. Army in 1940. 25	Inventor T. Marshall patented the fire extinguisher in 1872. 26	D. B. Downing, inventor, patented his street letter box in 1891. 27	Founder of The Underground Railroad, Levi Coffin, was born in 1798. 28	The Supreme Court ordered end to segregation in schools "at once" in 1969. 29
Daylight Savings Time Ends Richard Arrington was elected the first Black mayor of Birmingham, Alabama, in 1979. 30	Halloween Ethel Waters, actor and singer, was born in 1900. 31					

Armstrong Williams



Entrepreneur and Journalist

Armstrong Williams is called "one of the most recognizable conservative voices in America" by *The Washington Post*. Williams considers himself a pugnacious, provocative and principled voice for conservatives and Christian values in America's public debates.

A native of Marion, South Carolina, Williams was born on February 5, 1959. He was reared on the family's tobacco farm with nine other siblings. He displayed an early gift for public speaking, winning a high school oratory contest in 1976. He graduated from South Carolina State University in 1981 where he received an outstanding education.

Williams is an entrepreneur and third-generation Republican. Focusing on issues such as the work ethic, personal responsibility, and the restoration of morality in today's society, Williams brings an independent viewpoint to the central issues of our day.

Williams' column, which is distributed by the Chicago Tribune Media, is currently featured in a wide array of African American and mainstream newspapers including: *New York Amsterdam News*, *Washington Afro-American*, *Washington Times*, *Detroit Free Press*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Seattle Times*, *Tallahassee Democrat*, *Winston-Salem Chronicle*, *Myrtle Beach Sun News*, *The State*, *Florence Morning News*, *Greenville News* and *Charleston Post & Courier*. Williams is a regular contributor to Sinclair Broadcasting, America's Black Forum, Court TV and Fox News. He is also a regular commentator on CNN, The Russ Parr Morning Show and National Public Radio.

In 2003, Williams launched "The Right Side Productions" company, which produces, syndicates and distributes his television show "The Right Side" to Sky Angel Satellite Network, The Liberty Channel and other independent and cable outlets across the country. "The Right Side" is carried on Florence, South Carolina television stations ABC affiliate WPDE-News Channel 15 on Sunday's at 9:30 am and daily on UPN affiliate WWMB Channel 21 at 11 am.

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**AFRICAN
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HISTORY CALENDAR

The Right Side Productions, in partnership with Langer Broadcast Radio Network, also syndicates William's national daily radio show to radio affiliates across the country.

"On Point with Armstrong Williams" is a monthly primetime television special that airs on TVOne cable network. Guests have included Secretary of State Colin Powell and National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice.

Williams' 1995 bestselling book, *Beyond Blame*, contains real-life advice to a misguided young man. His second book is due in early 2005. For the past five years, Williams has been a member of the national board of Childhelp USA and is a lifetime member of Phi Beta Sigma. He is also on the board of *The Washington Afro America Newspaper*.

In 2004, Williams was appointed by President George W. Bush to the President's Commission on White House Fellows, whose mission is to select leaders of the future.

Williams is the founder and CEO of the Graham Williams Group and Right Side Productions, Inc., an international public relations and media firm based in Washington DC with clients in entertainment, politics, business and charitable organizations.

2005

South Carolina
**AFRICAN
AMERICAN**
HISTORY CALENDAR

November

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

First issue of *Ebony* published in 1945.
First issue of *Crisis* published in 1910.

1

President Ronald Reagan signed law designating the third Monday in January Martin Luther King, Jr. Day in 1983.

2

South Carolina State College was established in 1896.

3

T. Elkins patented the refrigerating apparatus in 1879.

4

Walter E. Washington elected Mayor of Washington DC in 1974.

5

Absalom Jones, minister, was born in 1746.

6

David Dinkins elected first Black Mayor of New York City in 1989.

7

Election Day

Edward W. Brooke was elected first Black U.S. senator (R-Mass) in 85 years in 1966.

8

Benjamin Banneker, surveyor, was born in 1731.

9

Andrew Hatcher was named associate press secretary to President JFK, becoming the first Black press secretary in 1960.

10

Veterans' Day

Nat Turner, leader of a Virginia slave revolt, was hanged in 1831.

11

In 1775 General George Washington issued an order, later rescinded, which forbade recruiting officers to enlist Blacks.

12

Dwight Gooden won the Cy Young Award in 1985.

13

Booker T. Washington died in 1915.

14

In 1979, the Nobel Prize in economics was awarded to Professor Arthur Lewis of Princeton.

15

"Father of the Blues," W.C. Handy, was born in Florence AL in 1873.

16

Omega Psi Phi was founded on the campus of Howard University, 1911.

17

Abolitionist and orator Sojourner Truth was born in 1787.

18

Roy Campanella was named most valuable player of the National Baseball League for the second time, 1953.

19

Garrett T. Morgan patented the traffic signal in 1923.

20

Shaw University was founded in 1865.

21

Alrutheus A. Taylor, teacher and historian, was born in 1893.

22

J.L. Love put patents on the pencil sharpener in 1897.

23

Thanksgiving Day

Scott Joplin, composer, born in 1868.

24

Luther "Bill" Robinson, dancer, died in 1949.

25

Sojourner Truth, evangelist, died in 1883.

26

Richard Wright, author, died in 1960.

27

Ernie Davis became the first African American to win the Heisman Trophy in 1961.

28

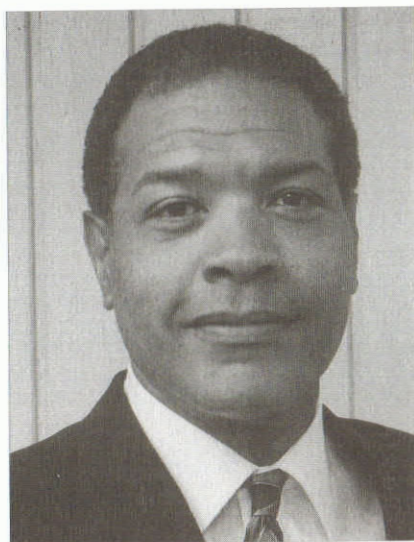
Congressman Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. was born in 1908.

29

Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm was born in 1924.

30

Bennie Lee Cunningham, Jr.



Athlete

Bennie Lee Cunningham, Jr., the first son of Carol and Bennie L. Cunningham, Sr., was born in Laurens, South Carolina. Following opportunities early in their careers, his parents moved the family to Spartanburg, Gaffney, Chesterfield, and finally Seneca.

Cunningham participated in football, baseball, and track at Seneca High School. In 1971, he was selected as a high school All-American in football.

Cunningham continued his academic and athletic career by attending Clemson University on a football scholarship. During his four-year tenure, he received numerous awards—foremost, the selection as a consensus All-American after his junior year. He was the first African American from Clemson University to receive the honor.

After his senior season, he was a repeat selection to several All-American teams. Additionally, he was two-time All-Atlantic Coast Conference ('74 and '75) and was selected as a member of the All-Atlantic Coast Conference 50th Anniversary Team, East-West Shrine Bowl Team, Hula Bowl Team., Japan Bowl Team, Kodak All-American Team, Playboy All-American Team and the All-South Team selected by *Southern Living Magazine*.

Cunningham was also the first African American to receive the prestigious "Frank Howard Award for Bringing Excellence to Clemson University." Personally, Bennie says his "proudest collegiate honor" was earning a Bachelor of Arts degree from Clemson University. Later, he received a Master of Human Resources Development degree from Clemson.

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South Carolina
**AFRICAN
AMERICAN**
HISTORY CALENDAR

The Pittsburgh Steelers of the National Football League selected Bennie Cunningham in the first round of the NFL draft after his senior season. He played ten years for the Steelers and was a member of two World Championship Teams, performing in Super Bowl XIII and Super Bowl XIV.

One of the most memorable moments for Bennie and many Pittsburgh fans came in a football game against the Cleveland Browns during the '78 season. In overtime, Bennie scored the winning touchdown on a 40-yard flea-flicker pass from Terry Bradshaw.

This play was selected as one of ten Fantastic Finish plays of the 1970s, and it is on video display in the NFL Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio.

Cunningham retired from professional football as the Steelers seventh all-time leading receiver and is the all-time reception leader among tight ends for the Steelers, having totaled 200 catches and 20 touchdowns in his career. He was named to the Steelers 50th Anniversary team.

Currently, he is a career counselor at West-Oak High School in Westminster, South Carolina.

December

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

				<p>Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on a public bus in 1955.</p>	<p>Historian Charles Wesley was born in 1891.</p>	<p>First issue of <i>North Star</i> newspaper published in 1847.</p>
				1	2	3
<p>American Anti-Slavery Society organized in 1833.</p>	<p>Mary McLeod Bethune, educator, founded National Council of Negro Women, 1935.</p>	<p>In 1971 Lewis Franklin Powell was confirmed as Supreme Court justice.</p>	<p>Lester Granger was named executive director of the National Urban League in 1941.</p>	<p>Entertainer Sammy Davis, Jr. was born in 1925.</p>	<p>Entertainer Redd Foxx was born in 1925.</p>	<p>Ralph J. Bunche becomes the first Black person awarded a Nobel Peace Prize, 1950.</p>
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<p>P.B.S. Pinchback became the first African American governor of an American state, Louisiana, in 1872.</p>	<p>Joseph H. Rainey (S.C.) first African American elected to Congress in 1870.</p>	<p>First Black women complete officer training for the WAVEs, 1944.</p>	<p>Congressman John Langston was born in 1829.</p>	<p>Maggie Lena Walker, banker, died in 1934.</p>	<p>Andrew Young of Georgia named ambassador and chief delegate to the United Nations in 1976.</p>	<p>Noble Sissle, lyricist and bandleader, died in 1975.</p>
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
<p>The 13th Amendment was ratified in 1865.</p>	<p>Carter G. Woodson, historian, born in 1875.</p>	<p>South Carolina seceded from the Union in 1860.</p>	<p>Motown Records established in 1959 by Berry Gordy, Jr.</p>	<p>Historian and author of <i>Destruction of Black Civilization</i> Dr. Chancellor Williams was born in 1898.</p>	<p>Alice H. Parker patented the gas heating furnace in 1919.</p>	<p>Irwin C. Mollison, first African American judge of the Customs Court was born in 1898.</p>
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
<p>Christmas Day</p> <p>In 1971 Rev. Jesse Jackson organized Operation PUSH (People United to Save Humanity).</p>	<p>In 1924, DeFord Bailey, Sr., became the first African American to perform on the Grand Ole Opry.</p>	<p>Pioneer of blood plasma research, Dr. Charles Richard Drew, established a blood bank in New York City, 1941.</p>	<p>Earl "Fatha" Hines, famed jazz musician and father of modern jazz piano, was born in 1905.</p>	<p>Thomas Bradley was born in 1917.</p>	<p>Blues composer and singer Bo Diddley was born in 1928.</p>	<p>New Year's Eve</p> <p>Odetta Felious Gordon, the folk singer and activist known as "Odetta," was born in 1930.</p>
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Resources

Following are books which contain more information about individuals featured in the BellSouth South Carolina African American History Calendar and information about individuals featured in previous BellSouth South Carolina African American History Calendars.

Visit the BellSouth South Carolina African American History Calendar website at www.scafricanamerican.com.

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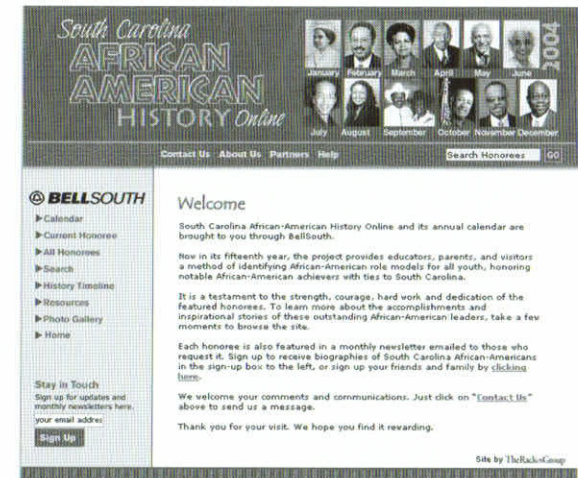
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